

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) The personal computer of claim 1-32, wherein ~~the master control unit includes at least one of the processing units~~ said protected portion of the microchip includes a non-volatile memory.

3. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the internal hardware firewall is ~~also-configured with~~using firmware.

4. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip includes a power management component volatile memory.

5. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the active configuration is provided by the use of field-programmable gate arrays (FPGAs).

6. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the active configuration is provided by the use of a micro electromechanical system (MEMS).

7. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the active configuration is used to configure said firewall.

8. (Currently Amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the master control unit ~~also includes hardware and firmware is configured to control access to the unprotected portion of the microchip by the network including the Internet for said operation when the computer is connected to the network including the Internet.~~

9. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the personal computer includes one or more of a telephone, a radio, a pager, a handheld personal digital assistant, a wearable computer, a digital signal processor, an entertainment device, a game, a videocam, an optical data recording device, a camera, a household electronic device, a business electronic device, and an automobile.

10. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein ~~the~~ the network connection includes a direct wireless connection to the another computer.

11. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein ~~the internal firewall is also configured to temporarily deny access to at least one of the processing units by the another computer through the network~~ said unprotected portion of the microchip includes a non-volatile memory.

12. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes a network communications component.

13. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said protected

portion of the microchip further includes a flash memory component.

14. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2–13, wherein the flash memory component includes a BIOS (basic input/output system) of the personal computer.

15. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes a sound component of the personal computer.

16. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes a graphics component of the personal computer.

17. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes a video processing component of the personal computer.

18. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes an analog component of the personal computer.

19. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes a modem component of the personal computer.

20. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 7, wherein the active configuration of the firewall is provided by the use of field-programmable gate arrays (FPGAs).

21. (Currently Amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip includes at least four or eight or 16 or 64 or 128 or 256 or 512 or 1024 of said processing units of the microprocessor.

22. (Currently Amended) The personal computer of claim 2-32, wherein the master control unit-protected portion of the microchip is configured to be temporarily inaccessible from the network when the computer is connected to the network.

23. (Currently Amended) The personal computer of claim 2-32, wherein the master control unit-protected portion of the microchip is configured to be permanently inaccessible from the network when the computer is connected to the network.

24. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the internal hardware firewall has default settings that safely protect the personal computer from access from the Internet, but with the capability for a user of the personal computer to override the default settings.

25. (Currently amended) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the configuration of the internal hardware firewall is controlled by a network administrator in a local network.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently amended) The computer of claim 26-33, wherein ~~the master controlling device includes one of the microprocessors said protected portion of the microchip includes a non-volatile memory.~~

28. (Currently amended) The computer of claim 26-33, wherein the configuration of the internal hardware firewall is controlled by a network administrator in a local network.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently amended) The ~~computer~~ microchip of claim 29-34, wherein ~~the master control unit includes one of the processing units said protected portion of the microchip includes a non-volatile memory.~~

31. (Currently amended) The ~~computer~~ microchip of claim 29-34, wherein the configuration of the internal hardware firewall is controlled by a network administrator in a local network.

32. (New) A personal computer configured for a connection to a network of computers including the Internet, comprising:

a microchip including

a microprocessor, the microprocessor including

a master control unit that is configured using hardware and firmware, and at least two processing units;

the master control unit of the microprocessor being further configured to allow a user of the personal computer to control the processing units of the microprocessor;

an internal hardware firewall creating a protected portion of the microchip and an unprotected portion of the microchip;

said protected portion of the microchip including

at least said master control unit of the microprocessor, and

at least one of the processing units of the microprocessor,

said unprotected portion of the microchip including one or more of the processing units of the microprocessor;

said hardware firewall denying access to said protected portion of the microchip by a network including the Internet when the personal computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

said hardware firewall permitting access by another computer in the network including the Internet to said one or more of the processing units included in the unprotected portion of the microchip for an operation with said another computer in the network including the Internet when the personal computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

an active configuration of a circuit integrated into the microchip.

33. (New) A computer configured for a connection to a network of computers including the Internet, comprising:

a master controlling device that is configured using hardware and firmware,

at least two microprocessors; and

the master controlling device of the computer being further configured to allow a user of the personal computer to control the microprocessors;

an internal hardware firewall creating a protected portion of the computer and an unprotected portion of the computer;

said protected portion of the computer including

at least said master controlling device, and

at least one of the microprocessors,

said unprotected portion of the computer including one or more of the microprocessors;

said hardware firewall denying access to said protected portion of the computer by a network including the Internet when computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

said hardware firewall permitting access by another computer in the network including the Internet to said one or more of the microprocessors included in the unprotected portion of the computer for an operation with said another computer in the network including the Internet when the personal computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

an active configuration of motherboard hardware.

34. (New) A microchip configured for a connection to a network of computers including the Internet, comprising:

a microprocessor, the microprocessor including

a master control unit that is configured using hardware and firmware, and

at least two processing units;

the master control unit of the microprocessor being further configured to allow a user of the personal computer to control the processing units of the microprocessor;

an internal hardware firewall creating a protected portion of the microchip and an unprotected portion of the microchip;

said protected portion of the microchip including

at least said master control unit of the microprocessor, and

at least one of the processing units of the microprocessor,

said unprotected portion of the microchip including one or more of the processing units of the microprocessor;

said hardware firewall denying access to said protected portion of the microchip by a network including the Internet when the personal computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

said hardware firewall permitting access by another computer in the network including the Internet to said one or more of the processing units included in the unprotected portion of the microchip for an operation with said another computer in the network including the Internet when the personal computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

an active configuration of a circuit integrated into the microchip.